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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

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DECAPTIONED

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, AR

SUBJECT: EGAN CASE: ABSENCE OF POLICE PROTECTION

REF: (A) BUENOS AIRES 3401 MAY 10, 1974; (B) BUENOS AIRES
3421 MAY 12, 1974; (C) BUENOS AIRES 5229 JULY 16, 1974;
(D) BUENOS AIRES 6389 AUGUST 22, 1974; (E) BUENOS AIRES
1409 FEBRUARY 28, 1975; (F) BUENOS AIRES 1420 MARCH 1, 1975

1. REFERENCE (F) REPORTS EXPLANATION BY CORDOBA INTERVENTOR
LACABANNE THAT GUARDS HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM CONSULAR AGENCY,
ALONG WITH ALL OTHER OFFICERS IN THAT PRECINCT, TO SEARCH
FOR ASSASSINS WHO HAD KILLED POLICEMAN IN THAT PRECINCT ON
PREVIOUS SUNDAY. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT CONSIDER THIS EXPLANA-
TION SATISFACTORY BECAUSE (A) IT DOES NOT COME FROM FEDERAL
AUTHORITIES WHO GAVE US COMMITMENTS REGARDING PROTECTION OF
THE CONSULAR AGENCY AND (B) BECAUSE IT DOES NOT JUSTIFY
FAILURE TO LIVE UP TO THOSE COMMITMENTS.

2. REFERENCE (E) REPORTED THAT EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE OF
GUARDS GIVEN BY LACABANNE IN TELEPHONIC CONVERSATION WITH
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INTERIOR MINISTER ROCAMORA WAS UNSATISFACTORY AND THAT ROCAMORA ASSURED THE AMBASSADOR THAT A FULL INVESTIGATION OF THIS MATTER WOULD BE CARRIED OUT. THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS IT ESSENTIAL THAT A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION BE CARRIED OUT AND THAT A FULL OFFICIAL WRITTEN REPORT BE MADE TO THE EMBASSY. THE EMBASSY IS THEREFORE REQUESTED TO SEND A NOTE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SAYING IT HAS RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT TO REQUEST SUCH A WRITTEN REPORT. YOUR NOTE SHOULD REFER TO THE AMBASSADOR'S MAY 9, 1974 CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER VIGNES (REF. A) IN WHICH VIGNES ASKED THAT WE DEFER THE PLANNED CLOSING OF THE CONSULAR AGENCY TO PERMIT DISCUSSION OF THE SECURITY QUESTION, THE MAY 11, 1974 CONVERSATION WITH FEDERAL POLICE CHIEF VILLAR, WHO PROMISED QTE MAXIMUM PROTECTION UNQTE FOR THE CONSULAR AGENCY, MR. EGAN, AND HIS WIFE (REF. B), AND THE AUGUST 21, 1974 CONVERSATION IN WHICH THE AMBASSADOR INFORMED VIGNES THAT WE WOULD KEEP THE CONSULAR AGENCY OPEN ON THE BASIS OF ASSURANCES RECEIVED FROM THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES THAT ADEQUATE SECURITY WOULD BE PROVIDED (REF. D).

3. ON RECEIPT OF THE REPORT THE EMBASSY SHOULD TRANSMIT IT TO THE DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TOGETHER WITH ANY COMMENTS OR RECOMMENDATIONS THE EMBASSY MAY HAVE. KISSINGER

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